THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) to (d) No such report has appeared in The Hindustan Times dated 9th September, 1996. However, the World Bank in its report "India's Family Welfare Programme : Towards a Reproductive and Child Heart Approach" has recommended reorientation of the family welfare programme to a Reproductive and Child Health Services approach that meets the individual client health nees and provides high quality services. The Report has recommended an essential package of services with emphasis on improved access and quality.

The Government of India has formulated an action plan for reorientation of the family welfare programme to a Reproductive and Child Health Approach. The important features of the Action Plan include improving quality and outreach of services, decentralised participatory planning, promotion of spacing methods among younger age couples, special focus on lagging districts, involving voluntary and non-Governmental organisations to promote community participation and strengthening of interventions to promote maternal and Child Health Care.

[Translation]

Passports of Officers of Public Sector Undertakings

3501. SHRI RAJKESHAR SINGH : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether guidelines in regard to issuing official passport to officers/employees of public sector undertakings while going aboard on official work, has been abolished from June 1, 1995;

(b) if so, the details therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to revive it; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) Yes, Sir. A policy decision was taken in May, 1'995 that officials working in Public Sector Undertakings would no longer be entitled to official passport.

(b) It was decided in present circumstances it would be appropriate to treat all Public Sector Undertakings on par with commercial organisations as they were primarily transacting commercial business.

(c) and (d) There is no proposal to revive the facility to grant official passport to officials in Public Sector Undertakings.

Irrigation Facilities in Mewat Region

3502. CHAUDHARY RAMCHANDRA BENDA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have assured to provide financial assistance for the construction of Mewat Canal;

(b) if so, the details and the quantum of funds proposed to be provided therefor;

(c) whether the Government have also approved an irrigation project for Mewat region; and

(d) if so, the details thereof indicating the estimated cost and funds released for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

Birth Place of Netaji

3503. DR. Y.S. RAJASEKHARA REDDY : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the utter neglect of Janakinath Bhawan in Cuttack where Netaji was born and Giddapahan in Darjeeling district of West Bengal where Netaji built his home in the late thirties;

(b) the special efforts have been made during the centenary year to preserve these symbols of national heritage and legacy of freedom fighter;

(c) whether North Bengal University had sent a proposal to the State Government for conversion in to a study centre-cum-museum; and

(d) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) and (b) The National Committee for the celebration of birth centenary of Netaju has already decided to set up a suitable memorial, preferably in the form of a museum, in Netaji's ancestral house at Cuttack. Similarly, an INA memorial would be developed at Moirang. Already existing Swatantrata Sangram Sangrahalaya and Swatantrata Senani Smarak (Red Fort-Salimgarh Fort Complex. Delhi) would also be strengthened.

There is, however, no proposal with regard to preservation of the house at Giddapahan in Darjeeling district of West Bengal.

(c) and (d) Information in this regard has been sought from the Government of West Bengal.